

CRIMSON

CELLULOID

no.
13/14

FOR THE DISCERNING GORE HOUND



SUBSCRIPTION INFO: DAVID NOLTE 286 Great North Rd. Abbotsford 2046

Palace Strikes Again!!!

Fans of spazzed maestro Dario Argento will be pleased to learn that Palace will be releasing Creeper(stake phenomenon) in time for Christmas, it isn't yet known if we'll be getting the recent European version or the trimmed U.S. version. Late November Palace will give us Silent Night, Deadly Night (in time for Christmas match!!!). This film caused a stir when released in America when vocal parent groups protested outside theatres showing the film, they objected to the killer-Santa theme. What these fruits don't realise is that the more publicity (good or bad) you give a film the more people will want to see it. A recent example of this would be the screening of Hail Mary in Sydney a few months ago, this film would of disappeared quietly if it hadn't been for the hairy Italian women who bought it publicly by praying outside the theatre. In early '87 Palace will be releasing the Argento/Lamberta Bava film Demons. From all accounts this is a storiless gore-fest. So all in all, Palace seems to be a dead cert to take out the "Video Company of the year" award this year. On a sour note I want to warn all C.C. readers to stay away from This Violent World, a shockumentary that almost made this hardened viewer puke. I only saw the first twenty minutes or so but that was enough. What kind of stuff does this video feature? Well how's this for starters...Animal Mutilation (typical of this type of film), Native rituals, torred miscarriages (Gag!!!), cheeks being pierced by needles, tongues being cut out etc. So, if this sort of thing is your cup of tea then watch it, if you're normal don't!!!!

This issue is dedicated to Maggie Redgrave who is leaving Palace to have a baby. All the best Maggie.
Before I get into the first review I should tell you the news that just sucked my socks off...you'd better sit down...ready?...Cameron Mitchell and Linda Blair are coming to Australia to make a film!! Details are still sketchy but the film is called The Deadly Triangle and is a "Gold Crystal International" picture (ever hear of these jokers?). Also coming down to star in the film is David Carradine. Crimson contributor Steven Jennings and I have sworn a blood oath to meet Mitchell & Blair. More details as they come to hand.

BLACKENSTEIN... (Sundowner Video)

The title alone suckered me into hiring this thing. Was it worth it? In a word...no. It has some nifty gore effects (a la H.G. Lewis-style) and a pretty corny story but there's far too much needless exposition. Seemed to me that the first three quarters was talk and the last quarter action. This was enough to send me to sleep and I woke up just in time to see the Blackenstein creature go on his rampage. One of his victims was none other than Liz (Desperate Living) Renay giving a typically wooden performance. My favourite part of the whole film was when a cruel orderly got his arm ripped off. The gore at the end of the film saves this film from being in the "Skunk of the Month" category, but Nothing can save the next film (Kinda sneaky way of getting from one review to the next eh!!!)

*****"SKUNK OF THE MONTH"***** INNOCENTS FROM HELL

This devil-possession piece of shit is just about as low as they come and is one big yawn from beginning to end. I drifted in and out of sleep but the story, as far as I gathered, was about two girls who meet a gypsy in the woods, he gets them possessed and then a priest tries to get their souls back. There's some nasty gore at the end which has the priest (or was it the gypsy?) can't remember (cutting each girl's breast and putting the blood into the other girl's mouth...don't ask me why, probably just an excuse to show some tits!!!) There's quite a bit of nudity for miff fans, but it's a bloody bore and best left unseen.



THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE

PART
2

THE CANNON GROUP, INC. Presents a GLOBUS GLOBUS Production of a TOBE HOOPER Film: "THE TEXAS CHAINSAW MASSACRE 2" Starring DENNIS HOPPER. Music by TOBE HOOPER and JERRY LAMBERT. Co-Producer TOBE HOOPER. Executive Producers HENRY HOLMES and JAMES JORGENSEN. Written by L. M. KOI CARSON. Produced by MENAHEM GOLAN and YORAM GLOBUS. Directed by TOBE HOOPER. ©MCMXXXVI CANNON FILMS, INC. and CANNON INTERNATIONAL S.R.L.

Looks like Tobe Hooper
has stuffed up another film
Advance word has it that
Chainsaw 2 Sucks!!

Well Leather-face old mate
Looks like you've gotta trade-in
your record collection and Chainsaw
for a place in the unemployment line!

This issue I'm happy to present a couple of reviews by Brett Gatten, a fellow horror fanatic. Brett has a large selection of beta tapes that he is willing to lend to Crimson readers. So, if you have a beta recorder and you want to swap with him drop him a line at 68 Highland St., Gladesville 2111.

F. DRINK YOUR BLOOD (1971)

From the producer of I spit on your grave comes this earlier "1" film. This is an absolutely bonko gore-happy comedy. Crazy hippies give an old digger LSD. His Grandson in a fit of venetiful rage injects rabid dog's blood into their meat pies. What follows is some rabies inspired violence and bloodshed with heaps of obvious makeups in the action-packed second half. The first half is more comedic with fantastic pre-eating sound fx and rat catching competitions. (this includes some good over and under acting, shaving foam at the mouth to indicate rabies, hip dialogue and an excellent cheap ending. Worthwhile.

FRIGHTMARE

An interesting 1974 release from British director Pete Walker. Some of his other films are available on video. The Confessional Murders (aka House of Mortal Sin) is on RCA-Columbia and The Flesh & Blood Show is on the now-defunct "Go" video which formed part of the "K&C" video label along with "Starbase Video". Both films are highly recommended.

Frightmare is about an elderly cannibal (Sheila Keith) who has been released from an asylum supposedly cured. Regular horror viewers like you and I know better and she returns to her old ways. She eventually plunges into a psychotic spiral as we witness several grisly murders e.g. red hot poker into stomach, pitchfork mutilations and an implied power drill to the head all of which are pretty darn good. It seems her youngest daughter is also carrying on the tradition as she and her friends beat up a barman for no reason. This barman has an eye removed and dies for no reason. The film is quite well-made and fairly intense with no humour. For me the ending is too abrupt and this detracts from the quality of the overall production.

HORROR HOSPITAL (aka Computer Killers)

Entertaining British horror comedy involves early 70's teenagers horrific encounters at a mysterious "health farm". Great fight and decapitation sequence make this a zesty video experience. Lobotomized teenagers are used as leather clad guards for the sole purpose of being beaten crapless whenever the pace slackens. A clay monster gives a stunning performance in the films great ending a dwarf (Skip Martin) is great until his untimely skull fracture three-quarters of the way through the film. It stars exploitation specialist Michael Gough (Crucible of Horror, Konga). The main star however is a car that decapitates people and catches their heads neatly in a well placed basketball basket. Recommended.

BRETT GATTEN

Thanks for the great reviews Brett. For those of you who are thinking of contacting Brett he also has the following films on video...

Naplis in Lace, Rosemary's Killer, Nightmare (aka Nightmares in a Damaged Brain), See Crimson #1, Zombie Holocaust (aka Dr. Butcher M.D.), To Love a Vampire (aka Just for a Vampire), To all a goodnight, The Redeemer, Death Dimension, Silent Night, Bloody Night, Home Sweet Home, A Queen's Ransom, Equinox, Midnight, Paria and more. Drop him a line.

Next issue I'll be printing an article on Andy Millican which is written by Brett and also a review of Don \$10 Dollar's Nightbeast.

Cannon video will be releasing Bills have eyes 2 soon. This film got terrible reviews in the States. We'll see.

Scream Greats Vol. 2 will be out soon. This video is about the famous "week end of horrors" convention. Should be good. Talk about a limited audience eh??

Correction - Scream Greats 2 is about witchcraft and devil worship.
No special deal this time

Next up is a review by Texas's own chainsaw maniac (Craig Ledbetter). The film sounds like a real dog. What with this film and This Violent World it seems like strike two for the usually reliable folk at Palace.

Rats: The Night of Terror (1983). "Lightning Video" (U.S.), "Palace Video" (Oz).

What is it about Bruno Mattei (hiding behind his usual nom de plume Vincent Dawn) that causes him to delve into the world of flesh eating rats? I thought it was just a casual thing in Night of the Zombies when out of the blue a zombie rat attacks a poor helpless extra. Now Dawn goes onto make a film with hundreds of these suckers on the attack. In this case more is not better as Rats is a very low budget humorless amalgam of horror clichés & genres. The film opens with a droning voice who informs us of the apocalypse that occurred in 2015 (as usual it was a nuclear war). It's now 225AB (After the Bomb) and two factions rule the earth: surface and sub-surface dwellers. The surface dwellers all appear to be rejects from an early 60's biker movie. This group consists of Kurt (the nominal hero), Chocolate (a stunning black Italian actress), Taurus, Video, Myrma & Diana (played by Cindy Ledbetter!!!). None are the least bit sympathetic & all the thesping goes down the tube due to the glaringly inept dubbing. In a budget conscious move, they quickly enter a large warehouse, where they'll remain until the end of the film. The warehouse contains large amounts of food and even has a green house in the basement. Before long, flesh eating rats are discovered and the balance of the film chronicles the group's battle to outlast the vermin's relentless attack. A few do survive only to discover the true horror of the sub-surface population's legacy. Me, I died laughing when this discovery was made.

The music attempts to imitate the relentless pounding of Goblin, but I found it only headache inducing. As mentioned earlier, the dubbing is awful, even when it produces gems like "Computers and corpses are a bad mixture". The rat attacks look cheesy and consist of an actor having dozens of rats thrown at him. Gore is ample but doesn't even attempt reality (such as the scene where a rat crawls out of an actresses mouth, no explanation is made as to how the rat got in there in the first place). In a scene of ultimate stupidity, after boarding up a window one of the actors blasts it with a shotgun, thus letting the rats gain easy access to the building. Not worth a rental unless you feel the urge to punish yourself for some past misdeed.

Many thanks to Craig Ledbetter.

Terror Circus, another great review by Brett Garten.
(aka Barn of the Naked Dead)

Andrew Prine stars in this 1973/1975 production set in the Nevada Desert. The plot consists of two stories which merge predictably to the climax. One is a "Women in Cages" style melodrama with Prine keeping girls in his "barn" of the title. There is some ridiculous humiliation scenes which are very funny but much of the running time is spent with Prine ranting and raving ludicrous dialogue to numerous chained women. The second thread provides the action, which is sadly infrequent, by having Prine's radiation scarred father killing off random people in the desert. It's a fairly average diversion but better entertainment than a normal nights tv. It is sadly lacking in explicit violence and gore which would have spiced it up tremendously. There are, however, no "naked dead" as in the title but there is a "barn". Neither title is very apt but I couldn't think of a suitable title either. Can you??

Thanks Brett Garten.

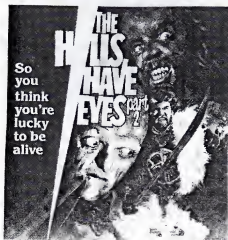
Crimson Celluloid t-shirts are selling like hot cakes. Shame they're not selling like t-shirts... I'm kidding. Anyway, they're still available!!

Crowdshow Home Video

Just when you thought it was safe to watch another Inbred movie along comes *Breeder's*, complete with it grade acting, shoddy camerawork, naked young ladies, a slimy, nozing alien, a brainless detective, some lunatic who wants to take over the world and a doctor with the intelligence of a union official. These are just some of the things you'll find in this low budget rehash of films like *Inseminoid*, *C.H.D.D.*, *Raid* and the thing eighty per cent of the films budget must have been spent on special make up effects, puking by the actors and settings. I don't know whether I would class this as a horror movie or a comedy spoof of the old sci fi monster movies of the 50's and 60's. The predictable storyline is about an alien who can take on all different shapes and sizes but needs virgins to help him create a new "alien race". After raping five women he returns to his underground spawning place which beneath the hospital and waits for the women who are carrying the eggs to return to him. Meanwhile, the detective and the doctor treating the women find that the so called rapist is under the hospital itself. In the closing scenes the women are electrocuted and the alien, who is really a doctor at the hospital, is burned alive. A few stomach churning effects and some naked women are about all I could recommend about this film. If you are, however, planning to get this film out on video, get it out when you have nothing else to do.

DARREN COLE

Personally I think I'm going to enjoy this film when I get a chance to see it. The alien rape sub genre hasn't been fully explored since *Inseminoid* or *Incubus*. Now, as I said before, rape isn't a pleasant subject but there's something really perversely about aliens raping nubile young virgins that appeals to my bizarre tastes. The ad shown at left is pretty nifty but are the girls in the picture really meant to be virgins? Yeah, John DeLorean was innocent and Charles Manson is a fun kind of guy!!!



A repulsive alien.
Beautiful earth women.
Will a new race be created...by force?

BREEDERS



By now you've probably noticed that this issue is 1) Larger than normal & 2) Later than normal. Well there was a shortage of material to publish for issue 13, so I thought I'd wait and combine 13&14 in one, large issue. Doing this also gave me the idea to stop publishing on a monthly basis and work on a "Publish when I have enough material" basis. This'll mean that Crimson won't be out each month but when an issue is sent out it'll be bigger and better. Let me know what you think of this idea.

THE ZODIAC KILLER

Stars Hal Reed, Bob Jones.

This could well be the Plan 9 From Outer Space of the 80's. A killer is stalking people in San Francisco. The killer is a young guy called Jerry who breeds rabbits. One day he comes home to find his favourite rabbit dead, he utters the best lines of the film... "God, No. What's the matter Leo? God, he's dead. Why are evil people allowed to live and innocent rabbits like Leo must die!! For no reason at all, it's sickening!!" Next scene has Jerry burying Leo... "We're all going to miss you. I don't need to tell you Leo, you were my favourite... Goodbye Old Buddie!!"

Later that night Jerry meets friend in a bar. The friend is called "Groovy" by the girls because he's fairly old and has a full head of hair. It is, in fact a wig that resembles a dead cat!! During the night Groovy's wig gets bumped off his head and he says to the girl who knocked it off "I'll get you", hence setting himself up as a suspect or, if you prefer, red herring.

The following day Groovy visits his ex-wife and tries to kidnap his daughter the police are called, one thing leads to another and he gets blown-away by the cops. Just before he's shot he yells (for no apparent reason) "I'm the Zodiac Killer". The real Zodiac killer doesn't like this so he rings the local paper and says "I'm the real Zodiac, I want headlines!!"

Seems Jerry is a devil worshipper who believes that his victims will become his slaves in paradise after he dies.

Whilst Jerry is slicing and dicing various people, two cops (who seem to have just left the set of Blood Feast or Drive-In Massacre!!) visit a psychic in an attempt to find who the killer is. The cheesy psychic helps them out a little but the film then ends with Jerry's voice-over saying "You think I'm crazy... I'm not... The police will never catch me"... (ie What most loonies say!!) The usual "The End" credit has been replaced with "This is not The End". God Forbid there should be a sequel!!

The director Tom Hanson obviously spent many an hour studying the work of the masters of the cinema like Ed Wood, Andy Milligan, Don Dohler etc because he uses the worst actors I've ever seen (the dead rabbit acts better than Jerry!!). The effects are mainly the tomato ketchup on shirt variety, one sequence in which a couple are killed on a beach is quite convincing however, half the budget must of been spent on a retractable knife.

Hal Reed as Jerry is incompetent without actually being talented. Special mention goes to Bob Jones as Grover/Groovy, the wig he wears was obviously sold to him by a practical joker (Tom Hanson??).

Fans of crudsville movies should try and find this one. It looks like it was made in the late 60's/Early 70's and may have been released under another title because I can't find it mentioned in any of my reference books. Check it Out!!!

NEWS.. By the time you get this issue, Texas Chainsaw Massacre 2 would've opened in America. There's good and bad news however. The good news is that it's going to be very gory with effects by Tom Savini. The bad news is that its being released unrated. This means it'll either be banned or heavily cut if and when it reaches our fine shores.

Mini Review of Poltergeist 2 by logo designer Ken Taylor... "It's totally Fucker"... he has a way with words eh!!

NAME TO REMEMBER.. Michael Horan.. Michael is currently getting money together for 2 short features and one major horror film. Remember you read it here first!